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ABSTRACT

This paper summarizes findings of a baseline study of Canadian child welfare services and provides a critique of current social policy in Canada. Presently, Canadians have the largest number ever of 15 to 19 year olds (n = 2,369,000). This record number of children born in the late 1950s and early 1960s is likely to affect the number of births in the near future. At the same time an increasing number of children over 15 years of age are receiving welfare service. The pressure of demand from this adolescent age group may lead to an overestimation of the degree of emotional disturbance among the adolescents in care. Adoptions, while more frequent than before, are now less supervised. The total number of children in any one generation in contact with child welfare services is very large and indicates a major child care problem in Canada. Although institutions are notoriously resistant to change, Canadians have to break down many traditions of specialization and compartmentalization, if children are to be cared for properly. Canadians should be engaging in a major debate about the so-called welfare state. A major responsibility of those concerned with the provision of social services is to point out to governments the social and demographic realities of society. Provisional statistical data concerning foster care and adoption are appended. (Author/RH)

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TRENDS IN FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION:
CANADIAN CHILD WELFARE SERVICES 1959-1977

A Summary Of Findings
for presentation at the conference
of the Canadian Association for Young Children
"The Critical Years: Some New Perspectives"
Winnipeg, Manitoba October 12-15, 1978

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October 1978

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TRENDS IN FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION:
CANADIAN CHILD WELFARE SERVICES 1959-1977

Introduction

This summary of findings is based on a study of Canadian child welfare services for which I was the project director at the Canadian Council on Social Development until I left the Council in June 1978. I am now in the process of completing the final report which will be published in early 1979. The study arises out of an earlier review I made of the personal social services in Canada, which included among other related topics, day care services for children, services for abused children, residential services for children in care, and family planning services.¹

During this earlier review we recognized that some major aspects of the child welfare services had not been examined, in particular foster care and adoption. At the same time a national study of foster care and adoption is a formidable undertaking, because in effect the child welfare services as a whole are being put under the microscope. What was lacking was a picture of the child welfare universe in Canada. Was there for instance any comparability between the child welfare services of different provinces? What is the number of children receiving child welfare services in one year, or in one generation? After consulting with provincial child welfare experts across the country it was decided to undertake a baseline study of the child welfare services with both a retrospective and a contemporary focus. I propose to discuss today some of the more salient findings, and some of the questions these findings raise or leave unanswered.

¹ H. Philip Hepworth, "Personal Social Services in Canada: A Review" volumes 1-11, Canadian Council on Social Development, Ottawa 1975 & 1977.

Child Welfare Services Since 1959

We are often imprecise when we talk about the post war baby boom in Canada. Birth rates fell in the 1930's, then rose to a high of 28.9 live births per 1000 population in 1947, and only declined steadily after 1959. Live births rose from 228,000 in 1937 to an all-time high of 479,000 in 1959, then fell to a low of 343,000 in 1974, since then there has been a slight rise.

Illegitimate births have followed a somewhat different path to births as a whole. The number of illegitimate births rose steadily from 1921 onwards, and reached a peak of 35,600 in 1970, and a rate of 9.6 per cent of live births; these figures have fallen slightly in subsequent years, but the number of illegitimate births remains 50 per cent higher than in 1959.

Births and the number of children in the population provide the statistical framework in which to set the child welfare services. In 1959 we had the largest ever number of children under 1 year old, 479,000; in 1965 we had the largest number of 1 to 4 year olds, 1,842,000; in 1968 we had the largest number of 5 to 9 year olds, 2,322,000; in 1972 we had the largest ever number of 10 to 14 year olds, 2,327,000, and today we have the largest number of 15 to 19 year olds, 2,369,000.

There is in other words a wave like effect as the record number of children born in the late 1950's and early 1960's grow up, and in turn this will have some effect on the number of births in the next ten years.

A number of major social changes in the last ten to fifteen years also have had repercussions for the child welfare services; these include the

liberalization of the divorce law and the subsequent rise in the number of divorces, the liberalization of the law relating to contraceptive information, and major changes in contraceptive technology; at the same time we have had a growth in the number of legal therapeutic abortions. I do not propose today to discuss the effects of these social changes since their precise impact for instance on overall demographic trends is really not clear at the present time. There have been though some consequences for the child welfare services during the 1970's which I will discuss later.

The number of children in care in 1959 was about 52,000; in 1969 it was 98,000, and today it is about 80,000. The percentage of all children in the general population under the age of 15 who were in care was 0.9 in 1959/60, 1.3 in 1966/67, 1.5 in 1969/70 and 1.4 in 1976/77. Corresponding but slightly lower percentages apply for all children and young people under the age of 20.

A better idea of the turnover of children coming into and leaving care may be gained by comparing the number of admissions and discharges with the number of children in care at one time. Published figures do not show whether children enter and leave care more than once during any one year, but they do enable a crude index of activity or turnover to be derived. About 23,000 children entered care in 1961/62 compared with 38,000 in 1976/77; 20,000 children left care in 1961/62 compared with 37,000 in 1976/77. When admissions and discharges are combined and calculated as a percentage of the number of children in care at the end of the year, we get 73 per cent in 1961/62, 80 per cent in 1966/67, 84 per cent in 1971/72, and 93 per cent in 1976/77.

Similarly if we add the number of children admitted to care with those

in care at the beginning of each year and compare the resulting figure with the number of children at the end of the period we get 130 per cent in 1961/62, 137 per cent in 1966/67, 144 per cent in 1971/72, and 147 per cent in 1976/77.

So far as children entering and leaving care are concerned we can be reasonably certain that the level of turnover or activity is considerably higher today than it was 15 or 20 years ago. The in-care figures do not reflect the overall activities of the child welfare services, since many provincial child welfare services are heavily engaged in preventive or protective services with families and children, which do not automatically, and indeed are not intended to, lead to children being admitted to care. Services provided to unmarried mothers are also not directly reflected in admissions, discharges and in-care figures. Generally though it can be said that the activities of the child welfare services have expanded considerably in the last twenty years.

Another index of activity that might be looked at is the number of social workers employed in the child welfare services. In Ontario for example the total number of social work type (these include social workers, social work supervisors and administrators) positions was 887 1/2 in 1961, 1,270 in 1966, 1,597 1/2 in 1971, and 1,789 in 1976.

There is a wide variety of reasons why children are admitted to care, and provincial reporting systems vary. Admissions involving children of unmarried mothers or children relinquished for adoption are a prominent feature in all provinces for which records are available. As a percentage of admissions these children have fallen in recent years, whereas the percentage of children admitted for reasons of neglect or because their parents have been unable to care for them has risen.

Caution though is required in interpreting these trends, since the number of children relinquished for adoption partly depends on the number of illegitimate births and on the number of unmarried mothers willing or able to keep their babies. What can be said is that child welfare statistics suggest that illegitimate children remain a serious cause for concern; a decline in the number of them relinquished for adoption may simply mean that they remain at risk and they subsequently have to be admitted to care for reasons of neglect or parental inability to look after them. Most observers across the country believe that more unmarried mothers have kept their babies as social assistance and family allowance rates have improved in recent years. A worsening in economic conditions can therefore obviously seriously jeopardize the material care of children in these single parent households.

As already indicated the child population is falling proportionately to the rest of the population, and there is a marked aging process within the child population. It is therefore reasonable to suppose that the proportion of older children entering and being in care in recent years is higher than a few years ago. The available statistics on the age of children in care generally appear to reflect these demographic developments of recent years. In the mid and late 1960's the number of children under 5 years old in care was higher proportionately than the same age group in the general population; this is likely to reflect the continued rise in the number of illegitimate births in those years and the consequent number of children relinquished for adoption. A lower proportion of children under 5 are now in care than of children over 5, but this statistic appears to be very sensitive to fluctuations in the number of illegitimate births, and to other factors including changes in child welfare practice.

I have briefly mentioned one type of child welfare resource, namely the number of social work personnel, and the possible effects this may have on what the child welfare services do, and on what the statistics show or do not show they are doing. I would like now briefly to look at the placement resources used since 1959. I have divided these resources into two rough types, family type homes and residential services. In family type homes I include foster homes, boarding homes, free homes usually with parents and/or relatives, and adoptive homes. In residential services I include institutions and group homes. There are some problems with this broad distinction since some larger foster homes might be designated group homes in some provinces, and some group homes might be designated special or therapeutic foster homes in others. Some of this problem is overcome if we regard placement resources as a continuum approximating to greater or lesser degrees with a child's own original home. So far as residential services are concerned some broad confirmation of the number of resources in use is available in Health and Welfare Canada figures for homes for special care.

Generally the number of children placed in foster homes grew throughout the 1960's from 33,000 in 1961/62 to 59,000 in 1971/72; it then fell to 47,000 in 1976/77. Children living in free homes with parents or relatives have risen from 1,500 in 1961/62 to 6,200 in 1976/77. Children on probation in adoption homes rose in number from 4,600 in 1961/62 to 6,700 in 1971/72 and has since fallen to 6,300 in 1976/77.

The number of children in residential type services has risen slightly from 16,600 in 1961/62 to 18,800 in 1971/72 and 18,100 in 1976/77. There was

however a fall in the early and mid sixties, which may reflect the closing of older and larger institutions. The recent Health and Welfare Canada figures indicate considerably more places in approved residential facilities than are actually shown as being used in the provincial figures on which my statistics are based. Health and Welfare Canada records 29,061 places in 1976, 30,680 in 1977 and 31,105 in 1978. It should be noted here that Quebec has more than 16,000 of these approved places even though the number of children in care in this province who are placed in residential facilities has fallen from over 15,000 in the early sixties to less than 10,000 in 1976/77.

The resource showing most elasticity in terms of supply has undoubtedly been foster homes. My quoted figures understate the peak total of 65,000 children in foster homes in 1969/70; foster homes accommodated two-thirds of all children in care at that time. In the same year adoption homes accommodated at least 8,000 children in care.

My study has of course dealt with all children in the care of the child welfare services. I have not concentrated on any one age group. If social workers across Canada were asked at the moment which age group causes them most concern, they would and in fact do say the older children, who in their view are more disturbed and more difficult to place than other children in care. There are reports in all parts of Canada that the supply of foster homes especially for older children is declining. I believe many of these observations to be true. At the same time I think we should recognize the demographic realities, which mean that the child welfare services are now seeing proportionately more children over 15 years old than they were some years ago. The pressure of demand from this age group may lead us to over-

estimate the degree of emotional disturbance among the adolescents in care.

This conference has as its focus the critical years in child development. In one sense the child welfare services exist because children often do not receive the appropriate care during their first years of life. Child welfare services tend often to be an after-the-fact rescue service, which cannot remedy developmental deficits. The trends and figures already discussed give I believe ample confirmation that we have a major child care problem in Canada. The total number of children in any one generation who have had some contact with the child welfare services is truly staggering.

Adoption and Social Change

By way of illustrating my last point and turning to the subject of adoption, in the period 1959/60 to 1976/77 there have for example been almost 300,000 adoptions in Canada. Most of these children have been with their adoptive parents or with the natural parents now married with their adoptive parents, since they were less than one year old. Adopted children represent about 4 percent of children under 18. Each year adoptions involve the equivalent of 5 per cent of babies under one or almost one per cent of children under five. As a proportion of children under one or under five adoptions are much more frequent than they were eighteen years ago. Adoptions represented the equivalent of 2.7 per cent of children under one in 1959/60 and of 4.7 in 1976/77, of 0.6 per cent of children under five in 1959/60 and 0.9 per cent of children under five in 1976/77. As a proportion of both these age groups completed adoptions reached their highest level in 1971/72, 5.6 and 1.1 per cent respectively.

The highest number of adoptions completed in one year 1970/71 coincides with the peak year for illegitimate births. Agency placements in all provinces reached their peak in absolute numbers during the late 1960's and early 1970's. As a percentage though of all adoption placements, agency placements reached their peak at different times during the 1960's in the various provinces. Since then adoptions by relatives, and especially by step-parents, have reached their peaks in most provinces during the mid 1970's, both in terms of absolute numbers and as a proportion of all completed adoptions, and may still be rising. In recent years adoptions by step-parents represent about half of all completions in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. Adoptions by relatives or by private arrangements mean that less than half of all adoptions now involve children placed by the child welfare services. Nonetheless the number of agency placements still seems to be a sensitive indicator of any rise or fall in the overall number of illegitimate births, a slight rise being evident in the proportion of agency placements in 1975/76, and 1976/77 in various provinces, which coincides with a rise in the number of illegitimate births in these years.

Private adoptions, that is adoptions by third parties not related to the child and not selected by child welfare agencies, account for about 10 per cent of completed adoptions in Quebec and Ontario in recent years. The proportion is somewhat lower in other provinces for which figures are available.

Both relative and private adoptions are social phenomena which warrant much further research. It is clear from the information summarized above that the character of adoption as it has been traditionally understood, that is the taking of an orphaned or an abandoned child for one's own, is undergoing a major change. While the incidence of adoption is still very much

related to the trends in the number of illegitimate births, increasingly it is also reflecting the growing number of divorces and remarriages. Private adoptions warrant scrutiny, because the rights of the children involved may be in some risk of jeopardy without appropriate safeguards being imposed. The rights of both children and parents are also involved in adoptions occurring after divorce and remarriage. There is some need to protect the legal and emotional links of the child with both natural parents; these can be broken when adoption occurs after the remarriage of one of the natural parents.

Child Welfare Services In Their Social Context

My thesis in the present study of child welfare services is that they cannot be properly understood if they are looked at in isolation from the social context in which they operate. Similarly the separate parts of the child welfare services cannot be properly understood if they are looked at in isolation from the other parts. There has been a tendency in the child welfare services to divide the various operations into highly specialized compartments, for example protection, placement resources, adoption and so on. There are serious dangers in this specialization and the best interest of children may be lost to sight. Most child welfare services are now making efforts to review the progress of children in their care on a regular basis, but compartmentalization continues nonetheless.

If this process is a serious problem within the child welfare services, it can also be a serious problem for the services in their relationship with other outside agencies. Compartmentalization and specialization are by no means a monopoly of the child welfare services. There are major problems in getting child welfare, education, health, the police and the courts to work together effectively. Breakdowns on an inter-and intra-organizational

level mean that some of our major social services concerned with children are not as responsive to developing situations in a child's home as they should be. Teachers, public health nurses, and other people having contact with children, become reluctant to voice their concerns, when they have to engage in a long bureaucratic process of formal communications. I think there is a case to be made also for a major realignment of resources and responsibilities in regard to young children. We need to think of combinations of the education, health and child welfare services. We have to break down many of our traditions of specialization and compartmentalization, if we are to care for children properly. The separate development of child day care services and pre-elementary or kindergarten classes is a case in point. We need to move our resources about much more flexibly and fluidly so as to make the appropriate adjustments needed in changing social and demographic conditions. Our institutions though are notoriously resistant to change; school boards across the country are one example; children aid societies in Ontario are another.

Although the study I have been engaged in is not strictly speaking an evaluation of the child welfare services, the aggregation of the available child welfare statistics despite all their imperfections raises some fairly major questions. Foster care and adoption are a relatively cheap resource for governments to use -- is this a good thing? To what extent could we remove the need for the child welfare services if we were to provide adequate income and housing programs and good community support services? Why do we engage in the rhetoric of family services without willing the necessary resources? Why do we continue to neglect native children? In particular why have the federal and provincial governments after many decades failed to

arrive at a sensible division of resources and responsibilities for status Indian children? These and many similar questions need careful examination in Canada today.

The Welfare State in Crisis

I have felt for a number of years that in Canada we have insufficient public debate about the kind of society we want. It is true that we agonize about our Canadian identity, but we seem unable or unwilling to speak out about possible courses of action and then to go on and organize to bring about desired social changes. Pressure groups are extremely strong and active in some areas of Canadian public life, but in the sphere of social affairs they are weak and fragmented.

At the present time we should be engaging in a major debate about our so-called welfare state. Instead, the federal and provincial governments are cutting social programs with scant regard either for reality or for the effects of cutbacks on the well-being of Canadians both today and in the future. Governments respond to pressure; they are responding today to a wave of ideas, many of which originated a few years ago in the United States; criticism of big government leads inevitably to call for less government regulation in all spheres of economic and social life. Zero-based budgeting and sunset laws raise the possibility that major social programs can be eliminated without disastrous effects on society. I suggest that if continued these trends will lead to anarchy in our social arrangements. There is a place for good government in our lives, and there is a need for the major social programs which have been developed in the past and which together we have come to call the welfare state.

I have tried to suggest that change is needed in how we organize and deliver our major social services. I am also suggesting that drastic changes bring drastic and damaging consequences. We are seeing today the reverse side of President Johnson's Great Society of a decade and more ago; he was advocating utopian social engineering; when his dreams failed to bear fruit, when Vietnam and Watergate brought disillusion among the American public with the government in Washington, when economic ills assailed the American economy, then the old notion of as little government as possible reasserted itself. We are in effect seeing utopian social engineering put into reverse.

Those of us concerned with the social services must resist these violent swings in the public mood, stimulated as they are partly by pressure groups promoting their own interests. In one sense the federal and provincial governments need to be encouraged to keep their social programs strong and to resist the pressure and the temptation to cut expenditures in areas where there will be least public outcry.

It is our responsibility to spell out to governments the social and demographic realities of our society. We have to point out what our population structure is today, and what it is likely to be tomorrow. We have to point out that investment in the health and welfare of young children makes good sense. We have to point out the imperfections in our present social services. We have to promote change in our social institutions and in how we allocate our resources.

I hope if nothing else that my study of Canadian child welfare services will have shown something of the magnitude of the need among Canadian children for adequate care. I believe we as a society have to start planning in a hopeful spirit how we can best care for our children.

TRENDS IN FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION:
CANADIAN CHILD WELFARE SERVICES 1959-1977

PROVISIONAL STATISTICAL TABLES PREPARED TO SUPPORT

A Summary of Findings
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of the Canadian Association for Young Children
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TABLE I

A. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CANADA AGED 0-19 yrs. in 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1976 (IN THOUSANDS)

AGE	1961		1966		1971		1976	
0- 4 yrs.	2256.4	29.59%	2197.4	26.07%	1816.2	21.38%	1732.0	21.02%
5- 9 yrs.	2079.5	27.27%	2300.8	27.29%	2254.0	26.53%	1887.8	22.91%
10-14 yrs.	1856.0	24.35%	2093.5	24.84%	2310.7	27.20%	2276.4	27.62%
15-19 yrs.	1432.6	18.79%	1837.7	21.80%	2114.3	24.89%	2345.3	28.45%
TOTAL	7624.5	100.00%	8429.4	100.00%	8495.2	100.00%	8241.5	100.00%

B. CANADA LESS NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND YUKON

AGE	1961		1966		1971		1976*	
0- 4 yrs.	2250.2	29.58%	2190.1	26.05%	1808.6	21.35%	1737.9	21.32%
5- 9 yrs.	2074.8	27.27%	2294.9	27.29%	2246.3	26.52%	1848.7	22.68%
10-14 yrs.	1852.4	24.35%	2089.1	24.85%	2304.7	27.21%	2201.7	27.01%
15-19 yrs.	1430.1	18.80%	1834.2	21.81%	2110.0	24.91%	2362.5	28.99%
TOTAL	7607.5	100.00%	8408.3	100.00%	8469.6	100.00%	8150.8	100.00%

*Based on June 1977 figures - Statistics Canada - Preliminary postcensal estimate of the population 11.001

TABLE 2

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ADMITTED, DISCHARGED, AND IN CARE IN 1961/62,
1966/67, 1971/72 + 1976/77

	A Admissions	B Discharges	C A + B	D Children in Care	C as % of D
1961/62	22605	19652	42257	57850	73.05
1966/67	34099	32331	66430	83279	79.77
1971/72	35637	41633	77270	91479	84.47
1976/77	37604	37343	74947	80525	93.07

TABLE 3

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE COMPARED WITH THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN
IN CARE AT THE END OF 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 + 1976/77

	A Children in Care During Year	B Children in Care at Year End	A as % of B
1961/62	75457	57850	130.44
1966/67	114192	83279	137.12
1971/72	131563	91479	143.82
1976/77	117976	80525	146.51

TABLE 4

THE CHILD POPULATION OF CANADA (EXCLUSIVE OF THE NORTH WEST TERRITORIES
AND THE YUKON) AGED 0-14 yrs. INCLUSIVE AND 0-19 yrs. INCLUSIVE COMPARED
WITH THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEARS 1961/62,
1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77.

	A Population 0-14 years Inclusive (Thousands)	B Population 0-19 years Inclusive (Thousands)	C Children in Care at End of Year (Thousands)	D C as % of A	E C as % of B
1961/62	6177.4	7607.5	57.8	0.94	0.76
1966/67	6574.1	8408.3	83.5	1.27	0.99
1971/72	6359.6	8469.6	91.5	1.44	1.08
1976/77	5896.2	8241.5	80.5	1.37	0.98

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA VITAL STATISTICS AND PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
(various titles) ANNUAL REPORTS.

TABLE 5

THE PERCENTAGE OF ADMISSIONS TO CARE INVOLVING CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS OR CHILDREN RELINQUISHED FOR ADOPTION IN SEVEN CANADIAN PROVINCES IN 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 & 1976/77 (ACTUAL NUMBERS IN BRACKETS)

	1961/62	1966/67	1971/72	1976/77
Nfld.		34.44 (243)	33.87 (271)	33.03 (216)
P.E.I.	16.33 (16)	18.49 (27)	22.99 (20)	
N.S.	49.67 (152)	46.29 (287)	51.40 (275)	36.83 (130)
Ont.		47.01 (5228)	39.31 (4362)	23.24 (2485)
Sask.	40.33 (417)	40.56 (612)	24.08 (605)	17.23 (385)
Alberta	49.33 (836)	56.59 (1228)	33.43 (812)	11.06 (691)
B.C.	14.19 (202)	15.47 (755)	7.27 (377)	5.09 (233)

TABLE 6

THE PERCENTAGE OF ADMISSIONS TO CARE INVOLVING CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS HAVE NEGLECTED THEM OR BEEN UNABLE TO CARE FOR THEM PROPERLY IN 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77 (ACTUAL NUMBERS IN BRACKETS)

	1961/62	1966/67	1971/72	1976/77
Nfld.		59.72 (430)	55.25 (442)	65.29 (427)
P.E.I.	83.66 (82)	81.51 (119)	77.11 (67)	
N.S. (a)	46.73 (143)	51.45 (319)	46.73 (250)	59.77 (211)
Ont.		52.99 (5892)	60.69 (6735)	76.76 (8206)
Sask.	59.67 (617)	59.44 (897)	75.92 (1907)	82.77 (1849)
Alberta	50.62 (857)	43.41 (942)	66.57 (1617)	75.38 (4710)
B.C.	67.42 (960) (b)	64.54 (3149)	64.76 (3359)	81.43 (3728)

(a) Wards only;

(b) Admissions to care of Superintendent of Child Welfare only, of which there was a total of 1424; total of all admissions to care in the province was 2454.

TABLE 7

CHILDREN IN CARE UNDER 5 YEARS OLD IN 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 & 1976/77 AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL IN CARE POPULATION, AND OF THE TOTAL CHILD POPULATION UNDER 5.

Province	1961/62		1966/67		1971/72		1976/77	
	Percentage of In-Care population	Percentage of total 0-4 yrs. population	Percentage of In-Care population	Percentage of total 0-4 yrs. population	Percentage of In-Care population	Percentage of total 0-4 yrs. population	Percentage of In-Care population	Percentage of total 0-4 yrs. population
Nfld.		28.75		27.07		24.27		22.62
N.S.	17.38 ^(a)	28.45	33.27 ^(a)	26.02	29.33 ^(a)	21.71	11.07 ^(a)	21.08
N.B.		28.00		25.35		21.18	17.23	22.01
Ont.		30.28	42.39	26.60	27.90	21.81	20.69	21.21
Sask.	36.15	29.34	32.53	26.26	26.71	21.03	19.25 ^(b)	22.02
B.C.		30.04		25.77		21.63		21.06
Canada		29.58		26.05		21.35		21.32

(a) Wards only

(b) Excludes children in care of Department of Northern Saskatchewan

TABLE 8

CHILDREN IN CARE AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL CHILD POPULATION UNDER 5 YEARS, OVER 5 YEARS AND UNDER 20 YEARS IN 1961, 1966, 1971 & 1976.

Province	1961			1966			1971			1976		
	0-4 In-Care Population as % of 0-4 Population	5+ In-Care Population as % of 5+ Population	All In-Care Population as % of 0-19 Population	0-4 In-Care Population as % of 0-4 Population	5+ In-Care Population as % of 5+ Population	All In-Care Population as % of 0-19 Population	0-4 In-Care Population as % of 0-4 Population	5+ In-Care Population as % of 5+ Population	All In-Care Population as % of 0-19 Population	0-4 In-Care Population as % of 0-4 Population	5+ In-Care Population as % of 5+ Population	All In-Care Population as % of 0-19 Population
Nfld.			0.41			0.62			0.70			0.55
N.S.	0.43 ^(a)	0.83 ^(a)	0.96 ^(b)	1.13 ^(a)	0.80 ^(a)	1.18 ^(b)	1.32 ^(a)	0.92 ^(a)	1.31 ^(b)	0.83 ^(a)	0.67 ^(a)	1.02 ^(b)
N.B.			0.53			0.75			1.10	0.81	1.10	1.04
Ont.			0.57	0.94	0.46	0.59	0.71	0.51	0.56	0.44	0.46	0.45
Sask.	0.79	0.58	0.64	0.99	0.73	0.80	1.09	0.80	0.86	0.65 ^(c)	0.77 ^(c)	0.79
B.C.			0.92			1.17			1.27			1.14
Canada less N.W.T. & Yukon			0.76			0.99			1.08			0.99

SOURCE:

(a) Wards only; (b) Wards & non-wards; (c) Excludes wards of Department of Northern Saskatchewan

TABLE 9

LOCATION OF CHILDREN IN CARE (IN THOUSANDS) IN 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 & 1976/77

	FAMILY TYPE HOMES						RESIDENTIAL SERVICES						OTHER LOCATIONS		TOTAL	
	FOSTER HOMES		BOARDING HOMES		FREE HOMES/RELATIVES		ADOPTION HOMES		SUB TOTAL		INSTITUTIONS		GROUP HOMES		SUB TOTAL	
	No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	
1961/62	33.2	57%	0.5	1%	1.5	3%	4.6	8%	39.8	69%	16.5	29%	0.1	-	16.6	29%
1966/67	58.4	70%	0.7	1%	1.4	2%	6.2	7%	66.7	80%	13.7	16%	0.7	1%	14.3	17%
1971/72	58.5	64%	0.4	-	3.9	5%	6.7	7%	69.5	76%	17.4	19%	1.4	2%	18.8	20%
1976/77	47.0	59%	0.4	-	6.2	8%	6.3	8%	59.9	75%	16.3	20%	1.8	2%	18.1	22%

TABLE 10

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS IN THE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES OF ONTARIO 1960 - 1970

End of Year	Social Workers			Clerical Workers							TOTAL				
	Positions Occupied	Positions Vacant	Total Positions	Positions Occupied	Positions Vacant	Total Positions	Positions Occupied	Positions Vacant	Total Positions						
1960	814	49	863	374	9½	383½					1246½				
1961	821½	66	887½	387	6½	393½					1281				
1962	860	58	918	385½	6	391½					1309½				
1963	900	49	949	392	12	404					1353				
1964	949½	51½	1001	402	8½	410½					1411½				
1965	1050½	66½	1117	451½	17	468½					1585½				
	Social	Social Work		Administration		Institutional		Clerical		Other		Total	Total	TOTAL APPROVED	
	Worker	Supervisor								Occupied	Vacancies	ESTABLISHMENT			
1966	935½	66	144½	26	96	2	157	7	468½	13	92½	1½	1894	115½	2009½
1967	1087	54½	183	21	104½	1½	187	1½	523	11	95½	-	2180	89½	2269½
1968	1150½	90½	187½	39	108	9	206½	31	554½	37½	91	8½	2298	215½	2513½
1969	1191½	43½	196	18	109	4½	236	17	568	22	96	½	2396½	104½	2501
1970	1209	53½	198½	22	113	4½	281½	14	581½	14½	120	8½	2503½	117	2620½
1971	1215	66	199	21½	109½	6½	301	31½	586½	19	113½	15½	2524½	160	2684½
1972	1246½	47	200	9	116½	3½	317½	31	580½	21	116	6½	2577	118	2695
1973	1243½	58	202	13	114	3	331½	20½	597½	11½	108	7	2597	113	2710
1974	1292½	43½	207½	13½	120	13½	396	28	608½	18½	101	8	2725½	114	2839½
1975	1381.8	62.1	212.72	19.0	125.1	3.4	496.77	64.4	646.96	18.9	127.33	10.92	2990.68	178.72	3169.4
1976	1363.85	71.3	217.02	7.1	128.70	1.3	472.25	60.9	643.81	22.5	128.63	10.32	2954.26	173.42	3127.68
1977	1345.09	75.20	231.82	15.20	128.70	3.0	478.83	44.30	638.08	25.60	154.67	16.22	2977.18	179.52	3156.71

TABLE 11

COMPLETED ADOPTIONS IN CANADA BY PROVINCE IN THE CALENDAR OR FISCAL YEARS 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72
& 1976/77 (a)

YEAR	NFLD.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL
1961/62	222	72	478	399	3174	5159	665	555	1447	1486	13657
1966/67	275	117	561	448	3560	6511	962	866	1624	2207	17131
1971/72	465	144	723	424	4118	7245	1346	961	2431	2306	20163
1976/77	471	110	750	438 ^(b)	3098	5077	1489	907	1933	1945	16246

SOURCE: Provincial published and unpublished records and correspondence received from Provincial Social Services and Vital Statistics Personnel.

(a) 1961=1961/62, etc.

(b) Number of placements in year.

TABLE 12

ADOPTION COMPLETIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CHILD POPULATION AGED UNDER ONE YEAR, AND UNDER FIVE YEARS IN THE PERIOD 1959/60 TO 1976/77

YEAR	A	B	C	D	E
	No. of Completed adoptions (thou- sands)	All Children under 1 year (thousands)	All Children under 5 years (thousands)	A as % of B	A as % of C
1961/62	13.7	475.7	2256.4	2.88	0.61
1966/67	17.1	387.7	2197.4	4.41	0.78
1971/72	20.2	360.3	1816.2	5.61	1.11
1976/77	16.2	346.6	1732.0	4.67	0.94